

Message Text

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15

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

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R 170300Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2160

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

AMCONSUL PERTH

AMCONSUL BRISBANE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

UNCLAS MELBOURNE 0567

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, AS

SUBJECT: SPECIAL COMMISSION ON MARITIME AND SHIPBUILDING
INDUSTRY PLANS TO VISIT U.S.

1. TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING INDUSTRY ANNOUNCED MAY 15 APPOINTMENT OF TRIPARTITE COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE SHIPBUILDING IN JAPAN, WEST GERMANY, SWEDEN, U.K. AND U.S.

2. ACCORDING TO LYNCH OF ACTU INDUSTRIAL DEPARTMENT, MISSION WILL BE LEAD BY HIMSELF AND CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT OF NEWPORT, NEW SOUTH WALES, SHIPYARD. HE EXPECTS FIVE OR SIX OTHER WORKER MEMBERS FROM SHIPWRIGHTS', BOILERMAKERS', WELDERS' AND OTHER UNIONS. FIVE MANAGEMENT AND SEVERAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS WILL COMPLETE 14 OR 15 MEMBER COMMISSION.

3. OBJECTIVE IS TO SEEK AND TO INTRODUCE MODERN WORK METHODS, INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS INCLUDED, INTO AUSTRALIAN INDUSTRY, WHICH
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IS PLAGUED BY ANTIQUE PROCESSES AND DIVISIVE UNIONISM.

4. LYNCH ASKED LABATT MAY 16, INFORMALLY BUT ON BEHALF OF COMMISSION, FOR GUIDANCE ON U. S. PART OF ITINERARY. HE WOULD LIKE TEAM TO VISIT ONE OR SEVERAL "GOOD SHIPYARDS" (READ 100 PERCENT UNIONIZED) FOR FLOOR TALKS WITH WORKERS, UNION OFFICIALS, AS WELL AS MANAGERS WITH WHOM THEY DEAL. HE WOULD LIKE ALSO TO MEET WITH MARITIME TRADES DEPARTMENT OF AFL-CIO, IF THIS IS POSSIBLE AND APPROPRIATE. OBVIOUSLY NAVY DEPARTMENT IS OF INTEREST.

5. TENTATIVE SCHEDULE SHOWS TEAM ARRIVING JAPAN LAST WEEK IN JULY; SWEDEN AND U.K. TO FOLLOW; THEN WEST GERMANY, LEAVING FRANKFURT ABOUT AUGUST 26 FOR NEW YORK OR WASHINGTON. EXACT TIMING DEPENDS ON THIS AND SIMILAR CABLES TO OTHER PLANNED POINTS.
BROWN

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